



STEVE WESTLY
California State Controller

Help Prevent Offshore Drilling

California's coastline is under attack. Certain members of Congress are attempting to remove key offshore drilling prohibitions and open our coast to oil exploration.

As the State's Chief Fiscal Officer, I am concerned about the environmental damage that offshore drilling can cause to the people and economy of California. Los Angeles is home to roughly 82 beaches, spanning over 70 miles of coastline. The risks are too great – especially weighed against our need to aggressively develop clean forms of energy.

California needs your help this summer. We need to educate the public on what Washington is trying to do to California. I challenge you to become part of this important effort.

Your voice and actions - joined with others across the state, can send the important message that California will not accept any weakening of our coastal protections. Each of us must accept this challenge – we cannot stand back and let special interests thousands of miles away determine our future.

I have accepted this challenge and have called on other elected officials in California to join in the fight. Further, as a member of the State Lands Commission, I advocated for the passage of a resolution urging the President and Congress to continue the moratorium on Federal offshore oil and gas leasing.

This summer, I am hosting seven California college interns. They will help research and develop policy on climate change, renewable energy and offshore oil drilling. Through all of our efforts, California's environment will be better protected.

You also have the means to meet this challenge. I have included a list of just a few of the great organizations in the Los Angeles area that are looking for volunteers this summer on coastal protection. These websites also offer good information on what is happening in Washington, who to write, and how to stay involved.

Sierra Club – Los Angeles Chapter

<http://angeleschapter.org/>

Heal the Bay – Santa Monica

<http://www.healthebay.org/>

Surfrider Foundation USA

<http://www.surfrider.org/>

This list is not exhaustive – you may want to create your own project or “Call to Action” to protect the California coastline. The key is to get involved. Take a stand. Protect the California coastline.

Best wishes,

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